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James B. Finley Letters

9-7-1828

Letter from Mary E. Bayard to James B. Finley

Mary E. Bayard

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PAID
Rev^d James B. Finley
Chelicer
Ohio

May 2 Myard
Pittsburgh

Bayards Town Sep 7th 1828

Respected Friend

Brother, Finley

Your very welcome letter came to hand which gave us much pleasure to hear from one we esteem so highly--and also to hear so much good news of what the Lord is doing in your part of the world in bringing so many souls from nature's darkness into his marvellous light. I wish I could inform you that there was much good doing in Pittsburgh but alas! this I cannot do, there is such a deadness amongst us so different from what it used to be that it distresses me--but I hope this year we shall have better times we have two excellent men appointed at our last conference for this place, William Lambdin who is a strong advocate for the good old side and Mr. Flake who I believe to be a young man of deep piety not troubling himself about either side but striving to do all the good he can, so I am in hopes radicalism will have a rest amongst for a while, untill we strive to get souls reformed I think this will be the best reformation we ^{can} have--I hear good old Bishop George has gone to reap the reward of his labours--I expect you have heard Brother Shinn has been sent to the hospital this is just what I expected

so much for radicalism, would to God it would sink
into eternal oblivion— Brother Waterman has moved
to brownsville he is appointed to that circuit— I wish
I could write as you did that I were happy in the Lord
but my dear brother I am not what I once was I can say
in the words of the poet

What peaceful hours I once enjoyed,
How sweet their memory still;
But they have left an aching void,
The world can never fill.

Oh that I was as I once was when the candle of
the Lord shone upon me, when I could read my title clear
to mansions in the skies, but I often fear those seasons
will return no more— Oh Brother Finley remember me
whenever you approach a throne of grace for I am confident
if ever I am saved it will be through the prayers of the
righteous, pray also for my husband, for my infant son that
we may all be christians indeed and in truth, for my
father my mother my brothers and sisters that we
may all live and die the death of the righteous that
we may be an undivided family in the kingdom of
heaven— Oh brother Finley my soul hungers and thirsts
after righteousness, as the hunted hart pants for the
cooling water brook, it is the greatest desire of my

soul to be an Israel indeed in whom there is no guile
I crave not riches, honour, or long life but I want to
be sanctified throughout soul body and spirit, I want to
be dead to the world but alive to God— where is brother
Young he has never condescended to write us a line we
should be pleased to hear also from him— I delivered all
your respects contained in your letter as far as was in
my power— Mr Bayard would have written to you but
is very much engaged at present building, he says if I
will write this time, he will write as soon as he has
more leisure he sends his best respects to you and
all my fathers family join with me in ^{sending} their best
respects and good wishes for your welfare— write soon
again as your letters will be received with the
greatest pleasure

I remain my dear Brother your
sincere friend untill death

Mary. E. Bayard

P.S Please to give our respects to your wife and rest
of your family—